

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 16411 120609Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 ICA-20 AID-05 EB-08
NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
LAB-04 SIL-01 L-03 H-02 PA-02 MMO-01 /123 W
-----084857 121726Z /43

R 120606Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1129
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS TOKYO 16411

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD, JA
SUBJECT: JAPANESE EXPORTS TO ASIAN COUNTRIES RISE OF
SURPLUS WITH EC NARROWS

1. THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORTED SEPTEMBER 90
THAT, ACCORDING TO THE BANK OF JAPAN, JAPANESE EXPORTS
TO THE ASEAN GROUP PLUS TAIWAN, HONG KONG AND SOUTH
KOREA IN THE SECOND QUARTER ROSE 35.9 PERCENT OVER THE
SAME PERIOD IN 1977. THE 35.9 PERCENT RISE FOLLOWED AN
INCREASE OF 37.3 PERCENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS
YEAR. THE BANK OF JAPAN ATTRIBUTED THE STEEP RISE IN
EXPORTS TO THE EIGHT COUNTRIES TO A GROWING DEMAND FOR
JAPANESE PLANTS AND RELATED MACHINERY.

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2. THE JOURNAL ALSO REPORTED THAT, ACCORDING TO THE
NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, JAPAN'S SURPLUS WITH THE EC IN THE
FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1978 TOTALED \$2.63 BILLION ON
A CUSTOMS CLEARANCE BASIS, ABOUT \$30 MILLION LESS THAN
IN THE COMPARABLE PERIOD IN 1977. JAPANESE IMPORTS FROM
THE EC WERE UP 38.7 PERCENT WHILE EXPORTS INCREASED
ONLY 17.8 PERCENT. THE REASON GIVEN FOR THE RISE IN

IMPORTS FROM THE EC, COMPRISED LARGELY OF MANUFACTURED
GOODS, WAS THE MARCH REDUCTION IN JAPANESE TARIFFS.

3. COMMENT: IT IS NOTABLE THAT JAPANESE MACHINERY EXPORTS
TO ASIA CONTINUE TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR
DESPITE THE APPRECIATION OF THE YEN. MANSFIELD

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NNN

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Draft Date: 12 sep 1978
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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